Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—12 hours is the longest period of work. But in practice there are not more than 10 hours.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Does the Government recognise it as a failure of duty to amend the factory law?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Certainly not.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Is it not a breach of promise made?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Absolutely not.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Is it not a categorical statement? My question is why he did not keep up the promise? Are you in a position to say that you did not make a promise?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—What is the promise and what is to be kept up? There was no undertaking that the factory law would be amended in a fixed time. What was said was that it would be done as soon as possible.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—And for the last three meetings the Government did not bring in any measure.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—The expression "as soon as possible" is capable of different interpretation. The matter is one of opinion. Rome was not built in a day.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—This is not Rome building. Does this 3 as. wages afford a labourer a full life especially when he has a large number of non-working full family?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Do the Government intend to fructify the kind assurance forecasted in the Diwan's address to this House by any legislative measure in this House or by means of any emergent legislation by the special powers vested in the Government?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—It is a matter for consideration. But they do intend to carry out any statement made in this House.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—In view of the fact that the next legislative session comes so far beyond will the Government consider the question whether some attempt could be made for legislation under the special powers vested in the Government?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar:—Government will look into the matter and do everything to expedite the same.

Head clerks—Registry Offices—charge allowance.

234. Mr. K. S. Manickam:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) are not Head clerks of Registry Offices statutorily authorised to hold full charge of office during the absence of the Registrar in addition to their own duties as Head clerks;

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(b) when holding such a charge are not they doing the duties of a Registrar, an Assistant Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, a Notary Public and that of a Kuri Registrar;

(c) does not this arrangement at times last for one or two months;

(d) were any of them found incompetent to hold such dual posts;

(e) is any allowance paid to them for the additional work they are called upon to do, and if so, what is the allowance;

(f) is there any time-limit for granting such an allowance;

(g) are they not holding charge of office without allowances;

(h) for how many days on an average in a year will they be in charge of office including holidays and short vacations for which no allowance is paid;

(i) do not the Government think it proper that some allowance should be paid to them for the additional responsible post they hold in consideration of the low scale of pay that is given to them?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar— (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) Yes. The allowance is provided under Art. 70 (a) and (b) of the C. S. R.

(f) No.

(g) Yes.

(h) This depends upon the number of days the District Registrars will be on casual leave or other business and so no definite answer can be given.

(i) No. Absence of Registrar from office on casual leave or on duty is not treated as absence from duty.

Technological institute—opening of.

235. Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether a committee of this Council was once appointed to report about the feasibility of opening a Technological Institute in Anappara alias Ramavarmapuram;

(b) whether the said committee has submitted any report in that connection;

(c) if so, will the Government be pleased to place on the Council Table the said report;

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